

SITUATION REPORT NO. 2
INCIDENT NO. 2002-009
DATE: June 11, 2002 TIME: 4:00 p.m.

TO: Governor John Hoeven
State Capitol
Bismarck, N.D. 58505

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: Severe Summer Storms – Severe thunderstorms with heavy rain, gusty winds and hail moved across North Dakota June 8-10.
2. DEATHS AND INJURIES:
3. DAMAGES: The National Weather Service (NWS) issued a flood warning effective until 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 11, for Cavalier and Pembina Counties. Five to six inches of rain fell across extreme northeast North Dakota on June 9-10.

Flows increased significantly along the Tongue River after portions of Pembina County received up to seven inches of rain this weekend. The County Water Resource District opened relief gates on the Goeske Dam, resulting in a rapid rise of six inches per hour on the Tongue River. Local officials are concerned the increased water flow will impact the stability and capacity of the high-hazard Renwick Dam, which is downstream from the Goeske Dam. Officials from Icelandic State Park, the Water Resource District and the N.D. State Water Commission (SWC) are monitoring the situation. After aerial and ground surveillances of the Tongue River, SWC and local water district engineers anticipate no major problems.

On June 11, a gravel township road was closed in Pembina County because of overland flooding. Two roads in Akra Township were damaged by floodwaters. Sandbagging operations occurred at a nursing home in Cavalier and at a home along the Tongue River. Workers are placing more dirt on an emergency levee in Bathgate to address Tongue River and overland flooding.

Up to five inches of rain fell June 8-10 in areas of Cavalier County. Fields are underwater; road damage appears to be minimal at this time.

Reports from Traill, Towner, Ramsey, Walsh, Nelson and Grand Forks Counties indicate there were flood problems as a result of recent heavy rains, but that the magnitude of damage and impact was not serious.

A damage assessment is underway in Benson County after the weekend's heavy rainfall and gusty winds caused heavy erosion and road washouts. Roadbeds are saturated and cropland is severely eroded. Some areas of the county received up to six inches of rain. Overland floodwaters are flowing into the city of Minnewaukan threatening homes and a church.

McLean County officials reported severe thunderstorms and high winds caused considerable damage June 8-10. The Max area received four inches of rain. Strong winds damaged several trees and a barn roof. The Garrison area recorded three inches of rain and wind in excess of 76 miles per hour (mph). Over 50 trees were toppled throughout the city, golf course and state park. Portions of several roofs were blown off, and low-lying areas were flooded. Underwood officials reported 2.25 inches of rain and strong winds that destroyed over 10 trees. In Washburn, 2.5 inches of rain, accompanied by strong winds and small hail, resulted in damage to several trees and a large greenhouse. In both Wilton and Turtle Lake, up to two inches of rain fell. Strong winds knocked down trees and scattered debris.

4. RESOURCES:

LOCAL: Responders include fire departments, dispatch centers, ambulance services, law enforcement, county and city maintenance crews, water resource districts and emergency management officials.

STATE: Agencies monitoring flood conditions include the Governor's Office, State Radio Communications, North Dakota Highway Patrol, N.D. Parks and Recreation Department, State Water Commission, N.D. Department of Transportation (DOT), N.D. Civil Air Patrol and the Division of Emergency Management.

FEDERAL: Agencies monitoring conditions include the National Weather Service (NWS), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the U.S. Air Force Cavalier Station.

5. VOLUNTEER ACTIONS: U.S. Air Force personnel assigned to the Cavalier Station assisted with sandbagging operations at a nursing home.

6. MAJOR ACTIONS: In eastern North Dakota, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) County Emergency Boards are conducting assessments to determine the extent of crop damage caused by recent storms.

The North Dakota Civil Air Patrol provided an aerial surveillance flight on June 11 for personnel from the N.D. State Water Commission and the Pembina Water Resource District.

On June 11, the Pembina County Commission declared an emergency due to heavy rain and overland flooding.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is providing an electric pump to assist with lift station operations in the city of Pembina. The city has enacted water restrictions.

7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: No assistance is needed at this time.
8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: Utility crews are repairing damaged infrastructure.
9. OTHER: Appropriate state, local and private entity emergency operations plans and procedures have been implemented.

Situation Reports published by North Dakota Emergency Management are posted on the Division's Internet home page. The address is <http://www.state.nd.us/dem>.

Douglas C. Friez, State Director